

REMARKS

The above-identified application is United States application serial number 11/612,757 filed on July 1, 2003. The Examiner requires election of one of the following groups of claims for prosecution in this case:

- I. Claims 2, 3, 6, drawn to a storage system having the particulars of the logic system for detecting the position of the cartridges, classified in class 700, subclass 229.
- II. Claims 4, 5, 7, 16, and 17, drawn to a storage system having the particulars of the conveyor belt transporting device, classified in class 700, subclass 230, or class 198.
- III. Claims 8-15, drawn to a storage system having the particulars of the magazine and mounting system, classified in class 198, subclass 860.1.
- IV. Claims 18-20, drawn to method of operating an automated storage system, classified in class 700, subclass 213.
- V. Claims 21-25, drawn to a storage system and computer product for managing a storage system, classified in class 700, subclass 218.

The Examiner further states that claim 1 links Groups I, II, and III. Applicant notes that the restriction requirement as to the linked inventions shall be withdrawn upon indication of allowability of the linking claim.

In response, Applicant elects Group III, claims 1 and 8-15, for further prosecution, with traverse with respect to Group V. Applicant has amended Claim 1 to include a computer-implemented controller to operate the movable accessor and the cartridge transport device. Similar features are included in independent claims 21 and 22. Removal of the restriction of claims 21-25 is respectfully requested.

In paragraph 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner further requests election between Species I (horizontal conveying path) and Species II (vertical conveying path). In response, Applicant elects Species I for further prosecution.

CONCLUSION

Should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at (949) 350-7301.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the USPTO on the date shown below:

/Mary Jo Bertani/
(Signature)

Mary Jo Bertani
(Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)

September 14, 2006
(Date)

Respectfully submitted,

/Mary Jo Bertani/

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